sterilant;

a mechanism for applying the atomized sterilant on to a container; and

a third supply source of a hot sterile drying air for activating and drying the sterilant in the interior of the container, wherein the container is upright.

2. The apparatus of claim 1, further including a heater for adding additional heat to the atomized sterilant.

3. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the container is a bottle.

4. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the sterilant is hydrogen peroxide.

5. Please cancel Claim 5.

6. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the atomizing system further includes an atomizing venturi.

7. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the second supply source of hot sterile air further includes a humidity control system for maintaining the humidity of the hot sterile air.

8. Please cancel Claim 8.

10. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein after drying the container interior surface retains a concentration of hydrogen peroxide less than .5 PPM.

11. (Amended 4 times) A method for sterilizing a container comprising:

providing a first supply of sterile air;

providing a supply of sterilant including providing a spoon dipper apparatus for measuring the quantity of the sterilant;

producing an atomized sterilant by mixing the first supply of sterile air with the sterilant;

providing a second supply of hot sterile air to the atomized sterilant;

applying the atomized sterilant to the container; and

supplying a third supply of hot sterile drying air for activating and drying the sterilant in the interior of the container, wherein the container is upright.

12. The method of claim 11, further including the step of providing a heater for adding additional heat to the atomized sterilant.

13. The method of claim 11, wherein the container is a bottle.

14. The method of claim 11, wherein the sterilant is hydrogen peroxide.

15. Please cancel Claim 15.

16. The method of claim 11, wherein the step of producing an atomized sterilant further includes providing an atomizing venturi for mixing the first supply of sterile air with the sterilant.

17. The method of claim 11, wherein the step of providing a second source of hot sterile air further includes providing a humidity control system for maintaining the humidity of the hot sterile air.

18. Please cancel claim 18.

20. The method of claim 11, wherein the step of supplying a third supply of hot sterile drying air further includes the interior of the container retaining a concentration of hydrogen peroxide less than .5 PPM.

21. (Thrice Amended) Apparatus comprising:

means for supplying a first source of sterile air;

means for supplying a source of sterilant, including a spoon dipper apparatus;

means for providing an atomizing system for producing an atomized sterilant from the mixing of sterile air from the first source of sterile air with the sterilant;

means for supplying a second source of hot sterile air to the atomized sterilant;

means for applying the atomized sterilant to a container; and

means for supplying a third source of hot sterile drying air into the interior of the container for activating and drying the sterilant, wherein the container is upright.

22. The apparatus of claim 21, wherein the means for supplying a third source of hot sterile drying air further includes a means for providing a residual concentration of hydrogen peroxide less than .5 PPM.